

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 4, 2019

The Honorable Patrick Shanahan
Acting Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Acting Secretary Shanahan,

I write today to ensure that any funds used to secure our border will not adversely impact military construction (MILCON) projects in Arizona. While I strongly agree that we must be tough on border security to protect Americans from drugs and criminals flowing across our Southern border, we cannot forsake one duty for another.

In response to this border crisis, we need physical barriers where appropriate and other border security investments. However, we cannot do that at the expense of critical MILCON projects in Arizona. The Arizona MILCON funding authorized and appropriated in recent years will enable the service members working in critical missions to have a safe, efficient, and effective working environment. Without funding for these projects on schedule and on budget, we risk disruption or degradation of several important military missions.

Therefore, I would urge you not to delay funding for any MILCON projects in Arizona, since they each directly support vital defense missions. I will remain committed to ensuring that our military men and women have the resources they need and look forward to continuing to work with you toward this common goal.

Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of our military men and women, our bases, and security along our southern border. I have requested we meet in person immediately to discuss these MILCON projects, as this is a time-sensitive matter. I appreciate your quick response.

In service,



Martha McSally
U.S. Senate